

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

*Please amend the claims as follows:*

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing method which uses an image processing apparatus for receiving color image data so as to store the data into a storage section and then performing output processing of the color image data stored in said storage section, said method comprising the steps of:

authenticating a requestor of the output processing of the received color image data;

extracting a specific color portion of the received color image data, when the authentication is not completed; and

deleting the extracted specific color portion from the received color image data, wherein

the color image data comprises a plurality of colors, and consists of the specific color portion and a non-specific color portion other than the specific color portion;

the specific color portion is represented by a specific color among the plurality of colors;

the non-specific color portion is represented by a non-specific color, other than the specific color, among the plurality of colors; and

the specific color portion is output to be visible for the requestor, when the authentication is completed.

2. (Currently Amended) An image processing method which uses an image processing apparatus for receiving color image data so as to store the data into a storage section and then performing output processing of the color image data stored in said storage section, said method comprising the steps of:

authenticating a requestor of the output processing of the received color image data;  
extracting a specific color portion of the received color image data; and  
deleting the extracted specific color portion from the received color image data, when the authentication is not completed, wherein

the color image data comprises a plurality of colors, and consists of the specific color portion and a non-specific color portion other than the specific color portion;

the specific color portion is represented by a specific color among the plurality of colors;

the non-specific color portion is represented by a non-specific color, other than the specific color, among the plurality of colors; and

the specific color portion is output to be visible for the requestor, when the authentication is completed.

3. (Currently Amended) An image processing method which uses an image processing apparatus for receiving color image data so as to store the data into a storage section and then performing output processing of the color image data stored in said storage section or alternatively the output processing with the exclusion of a specific color, said method comprising the steps of:

acquiring specific color information concerning the specific color of the received color image data;

authenticating a requestor of the output processing of the color image data the specific color information of which is acquired;

extracting a specific color portion of the received color image data, when the

authentication is failed; and

deleting the extracted specific color portion from the received color image data, wherein  
the color image data comprises a plurality of colors, and consists of the specific color  
portion and a non-specific color portion other than the specific color portion;

the specific color portion is represented by a specific color among the plurality of colors;  
the non-specific color portion is represented by a non-specific color, other than the  
specific color, among the plurality of colors; and

the specific color portion is output to be visible for the requestor, when the authentication  
is completed.

4. (Currently Amended) An image processing method which uses an image processing  
apparatus for receiving color image data so as to store the data into a storage section and then  
performing output processing of the color image data stored in said storage section or  
alternatively the output processing with the exclusion of a specific color, said method comprising  
the steps of:

acquiring specific color information concerning the specific color of the received color  
image data;

authenticating a requestor of the output processing of the color image data the specific  
color information of which is acquired;

extracting a specific color portion of the received color image data; and

deleting the extracted specific color portion from the received color image data, when the  
authentication is failed, wherein

the color image data comprises a plurality of colors, and consists of the specific color portion and a non-specific color portion other than the specific color portion;

the specific color portion is represented by a specific color among the plurality of colors;

the non-specific color portion is represented by a non-specific color, other than the specific color, among the plurality of colors; and

the specific color portion is output to be visible for the requestor, when the authentication is completed.

5. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus for receiving color image data so as to store the data into a storage section and then performing output processing of the color image data stored in said storage section, said apparatus comprising:

an authenticating section for authenticating a requestor of the output processing of the received color image data;

an extracting section for extracting a specific color portion of the received color image data, when the authentication is not completed in said authenticating section; and

an output stopping section for deleting the extracted specific color portion from the received color image data, wherein

the color image data comprises a plurality of colors, and consists of the specific color portion and a non-specific color portion other than the specific color portion;

the specific color portion is represented by a specific color among the plurality of colors;

the non-specific color portion is represented by a non-specific color, other than the specific color, among the plurality of colors; and

the specific color portion is output to be visible for the requestor, when the authentication is completed.

6. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus for receiving color image data so as to store the data into a storage section and then performing output processing of the color image data stored in said storage section, said apparatus comprising:

an authenticating section for authenticating a requestor of the output processing of the received color image data;

an extracting section for extracting a specific color portion of the received color image data; and

an output stopping section for deleting the extracted specific color portion from the received color image data, when the authentication is not completed, wherein

the color image data comprises a plurality of colors, and consists of the specific color portion and a non-specific color portion other than the specific color portion;

the specific color portion is represented by a specific color among the plurality of colors;

the non-specific color portion is represented by a non-specific color, other than the specific color, among the plurality of colors; and

the specific color portion is output to be visible for the requestor, when the authentication is completed.

7. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus for receiving color image data so as to store the data into a storage section and then performing output processing of the color image data stored in said storage section, said apparatus comprising:

an instruction receiving section for receiving an output instruction or an output stop instruction for a specific color portion of the received color image data;

an extracting section for extracting the specific color portion of the received color image data, when said instruction receiving section receives the output stop instruction; and

an output stopping section for deleting the extracted specific color portion from the received color image data, when said instruction receiving section receives the output stop instruction, wherein

the color image data comprises a plurality of colors, and consists of the specific color portion and a non-specific color portion other than the specific color portion;

the specific color portion is represented by a specific color among the plurality of colors;

the non-specific color portion is represented by a non-specific color, other than the specific color, among the plurality of colors; and

the specific color portion is output to be visible when said instruction receiving section receives the output instruction.

8. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus for receiving color image data so as to store the data into a storage section and then performing the output processing of the color image data stored in said storage section, said apparatus comprising:

an instruction receiving section for receiving an output instruction or an output stop

instruction for a specific color portion of the received color image data;

an extracting section for extracting the specific color portion of the received color image data; and

an output stopping section for deleting the extracted specific color portion from the received color image data, when said instruction receiving section receives the output stop instruction, wherein

the color image data comprises a plurality of colors, and consists of the specific color portion and a non-specific color portion other than the specific color portion;

the specific color portion is represented by a specific color among the plurality of colors;

the non-specific color portion is represented by a non-specific color, other than the specific color, among the plurality of colors; and

the specific color portion is output to be visible when said instruction receiving section receives the output instruction.

9. (Currently amended) An image processing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein

said storage section comprises: a semiconductor storage device for storing the specific color portion of the received image data; and a magnetic storage device for storing ~~a non-specific~~the non-specific color portion other than the specific color portion of the received image data.

10. (Currently amended) An image processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein

said storage section comprises: a semiconductor storage device for storing the specific

color portion of the received image data; and a magnetic storage device for storing a ~~non-specific~~the non-specific color portion other than the specific color portion of the received image data.

11. (Currently amended) An image processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said storage section comprises: a semiconductor storage device for storing the specific color portion of the received image data; and a magnetic storage device for storing a ~~non-specific~~the non-specific color portion other than the specific color portion of the received image data.

12. (Currently amended) An image processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said storage section comprises: a semiconductor storage device for storing the specific color portion of the received image data; and a magnetic storage device for storing a ~~non-specific~~the non-specific color portion other than the specific color portion of the received image data.

13. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising a deleting section for deleting the specific color portion which is stored in said storage section and the output processing of which is completed, once the output processing is completed.

14. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising



15. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising a deleting section for deleting the specific color portion which is stored in said storage section and the output processing of which is completed, once the output processing is completed.

16. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising a deleting section for deleting the specific color portion which is stored in said storage section and the output processing of which is completed, once the output processing is completed.

17. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising an encrypting section for encrypting the specific color portion to be stored into said storage section.

18. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising an encrypting section for encrypting the specific color portion to be stored into said storage section.

19. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising an encrypting section for encrypting the specific color portion to be stored into said storage section.

20. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising an encrypting section for encrypting the specific color portion to be stored into said storage section.

21. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising a specific color reception section for receiving the specification of a specific color.

22. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising a specific color reception section for receiving the specification of a specific color.

23. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising a specific color reception section for receiving the specification of a specific color.

24. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising a specific color reception section for receiving the specification of a specific color.

25. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein a plurality of colors are used as said specific color.

26. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein a plurality of colors are used as said specific color.

27. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein a plurality of colors are used as said specific color.
28. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein a plurality of colors are used as said specific color.
29. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 25, wherein importance levels are set for said specific colors.
30. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 26, wherein importance levels are set for said specific colors.
31. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 27, wherein importance levels are set for said specific colors.
32. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 28, wherein importance levels are set for said specific colors.
33. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said specific color portion is a character portion in a specific color.

34. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said specific color portion is a character portion in a specific color.

35. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said specific color portion is a character portion in a specific color.

36. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said specific color portion is a character portion in a specific color.

37. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said specific color portion is a graphics portion containing a specific color.

38. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said specific color portion is a graphics portion containing a specific color.

39. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said specific color portion is a graphics portion containing a specific color.

40. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said specific color portion is a graphics portion containing a specific color.

41. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein  
said output stopping section replaces the specific color portion with a predetermined  
mark.

42. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein  
said output stopping section replaces the specific color portion with a predetermined  
mark.

43. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein  
said output stopping section replaces the specific color portion with a predetermined  
mark.

44. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein  
said output stopping section replaces the specific color portion with a predetermined  
mark.

45. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising  
a notifying section for notifying the output stop of the specific color portion, when the  
output of the specific color portion is stopped.

46. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising  
a notifying section for notifying the output stop of the specific color portion, when the

output of the specific color portion is stopped.

47. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising a notifying section for notifying the output stop of the specific color portion, when the output of the specific color portion is stopped.

48. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising a notifying section for notifying the output stop of the specific color portion, when the output of the specific color portion is stopped.

49. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus for receiving color image data so as to store the data into a storage section and then performing output processing including the transmission of the color image data stored in said storage section, said apparatus comprising:

a destination storing section for storing a destination to which the transmission of a specific color portion of the received color image data is allowed;

an extracting section for extracting the specific color portion of the received color image data, when the destination of the received color image data is not stored in said destination storing section; and

an output stopping section for deleting the extracted specific color portion from the received color image data, wherein

the color image data comprises a plurality of colors, and consists of the specific color portion and a non-specific color portion other than the specific color portion;

the specific color portion is represented by a specific color among the plurality of colors;

the non-specific color portion is represented by a non-specific color, other than the specific color, among the plurality of colors; and

the specific color portion is output to be visible, when the destination to which the transmission of the specific color portion of the received color image data is allowed is stored in the destination storing section.

50. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus for receiving color image data so as to store the data into a storage section and then performing output processing including the transmission of the color image data stored in said storage section, said apparatus comprising:

a destination storing section for storing a destination to which the transmission of a specific color portion of the received color image data is allowed;

an extracting section for extracting the specific color portion of the received color image data; and

an output stopping section for deleting the extracted specific color portion from the received color image data, when the destination to which the transmission of the specific color portion of the received color image data is not stored in the destination storing section, wherein

the color image data comprises a plurality of colors, and consists of the specific color portion and a non-specific color portion other than the specific color portion;

the specific color portion is represented by a specific color among the plurality of colors;

the non-specific color portion is represented by a non-specific color, other than the specific color, among the plurality of colors; and

the specific color portion is output to be visible, when the destination to which the transmission of the specific color portion of the received color image data is allowed is stored in the destination storing section.

51. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein  
said output processing includes the transmission of the image data, and wherein  
said apparatus further comprises an encrypting section for encrypting the specific color portion of the image data to be transmitted.

52. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein  
said output processing includes the transmission of the image data, and wherein  
said apparatus further comprises an encrypting section for encrypting the specific color portion of the image data to be transmitted.

53. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein  
said output processing includes the transmission of the image data, and wherein  
said apparatus further comprises an encrypting section for encrypting the specific color portion of the image data to be transmitted.

54. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein  
said output processing includes the transmission of the image data, and wherein  
said apparatus further comprises an encrypting section for encrypting the specific color



portion of the image data to be transmitted.

55. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 49, wherein  
said output processing includes the transmission of the image data, and wherein  
said apparatus further comprises an encrypting section for encrypting the specific color  
portion of the image data to be transmitted.

56. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 50, wherein  
said output processing includes the transmission of the image data, and wherein  
said apparatus further comprises an encrypting section for encrypting the specific color  
portion of the image data to be transmitted.

57. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising  
a transmitting section for transmitting specific color information concerning the specific  
color.

58. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising  
a transmitting section for transmitting specific color information concerning the specific  
color.

59. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising  
a transmitting section for transmitting specific color information concerning the specific

60. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising a transmitting section for transmitting specific color information concerning the specific color.

61. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 49, further comprising a transmitting section for transmitting specific color information concerning the specific color.

62. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 50, further comprising a transmitting section for transmitting specific color information concerning the specific color.

63. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus for receiving color image data so as to store the data into a storage section and then performing output processing of the color image data stored in said storage section or alternatively the output processing with the exclusion of a specific color, said apparatus comprising:

an acquiring section for acquiring specific color information concerning the specific color of the received color image data;

an authenticating section for authenticating a requestor of the output processing of the color image data the specific color information of which is acquired by said acquiring section;

an extracting section for extracting a specific color portion of the received color image

data, when the authentication is failed in said authenticating section; and

an output stopping section for deleting the extracted specific color portion from the received color image data, wherein

the color image data comprises a plurality of colors, and consists of the specific color portion and a non-specific color portion other than the specific color portion;

the specific color portion is represented by a specific color among the plurality of colors;

the non-specific color portion is represented by a non-specific color, other than the specific color, among the plurality of colors; and

the specific color portion is output to be visible for the requestor, when the authentication is completed.

64. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus for receiving color image data so as to store the data into a storage section and then performing output processing of the color image data stored in said storage section or alternatively the output processing with the exclusion of a specific color, said apparatus comprising:

an acquiring section for acquiring specific color information concerning the specific color of the received color image data;

an authenticating section for authenticating a requestor of the output processing of the color image data the specific color information of which is acquired by said acquiring section;

an extracting section for extracting a specific color portion of the received color image data; and

an output stopping section for deleting the extracted specific color portion from the

received color image data, when the authentication is failed in said authenticating section, wherein

the color image data comprises a plurality of colors, and consists of the specific color portion and a non-specific color portion other than the specific color portion;

the specific color portion is represented by a specific color among the plurality of colors;

the non-specific color portion is represented by a non-specific color, other than the specific color, among the plurality of colors; and

the specific color portion is output to be visible for the requestor, when the authentication is completed.

65. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus for receiving color image data so as to store the data into a storage section and then performing output processing including the transmission of the color image data stored in said storage section or alternatively the transmission with the exclusion of a specific color, said apparatus comprising:

an acquiring section for acquiring specific color information concerning the specific color of the received color image data;

a destination storing section for storing a destination to which the transmission of the specific color portion of the received color image data is allowed;

a determining section for determining whether the destination of the specific color portion of the received color image data the specific color information of which is acquired by said acquiring section is stored in said destination storing section or not;

an extracting section for extracting the specific color portion of the received color image

data, when said determining section determines that the destination of the specific color portion of the received color image data is not stored in said destination storing section; and

an output stopping section for deleting the extracted specific color portion from the received color image data, wherein

the color image data comprises a plurality of colors, and consists of the specific color portion and a non-specific color portion other than the specific color portion;

the specific color portion is represented by a specific color among the plurality of colors;

the non-specific color portion is represented by a non-specific color, other than the specific color, among the plurality of colors; and

the specific color portion is output to be visible, when the destination of the specific color portion of the received color image data is stored in the destination storing section.

66. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus for receiving color image data so as to store the data into a storage section and then performing output processing including the transmission of the color image data stored in said storage section or alternatively the transmission with the exclusion of a specific color, said apparatus comprising:

an acquiring section for acquiring specific color information concerning the specific color of the received color image data;

a destination storing section for storing a destination to which the transmission of the specific color portion of the received color image data is allowed;

a determining section for determining whether the destination of the specific color portion of the received color image data the specific color information of which is acquired by

said acquiring section is stored in said destination storing section or not;

an extracting section for extracting the specific color portion of the received color image data; and

an output stopping section for deleting the extracted specific color portion, when said determining section determines that the destination of the specific color portion of the received color image data is not stored in the destination storing section, wherein

the color image data comprises a plurality of colors, and consists of the specific color portion and a non-specific color portion other than the specific color portion;

the specific color portion is represented by a specific color among the plurality of colors;

the non-specific color portion is represented by a non-specific color, other than the specific color, among the plurality of colors; and

the specific color portion is output to be visible, when the determining section determines that the destination of the specific color portion of the received color image data is stored in the destination storing section.

67. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 63, wherein  
said specific color information is added to the received image data, while said acquiring section acquires the specific color information added to the received image data.

68. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 64, wherein  
said specific color information is added to the received image data, while said acquiring section acquires the specific color information added to the received image data.

69. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 65, wherein said specific color information is added to the received image data, while said acquiring section acquires the specific color information added to the received image data.

70. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 66, wherein said specific color information is added to the received image data, while said acquiring section acquires the specific color information added to the received image data.

71. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 63, wherein a plurality of colors are used as said specific color.

72. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 64, wherein a plurality of colors are used as said specific color.

73. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 65, wherein a plurality of colors are used as said specific color.

74. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 66, wherein a plurality of colors are used as said specific color.

75. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 71, wherein

importance levels are set for said specific colors.

76. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 72, wherein importance levels are set for said specific colors.

77. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 73, wherein importance levels are set for said specific colors.

78. (Original) An image processing apparatus according to claim 74, wherein importance levels are set for said specific colors.

79. (Original) An information processing apparatus for transmitting image data to the image processing apparatus according to claim 5, said information processing apparatus comprising:

a reception section for receiving specific color information concerning a specific color;  
and

a converting section for converting into said specific color a predetermined color in the image data to be transmitted to said image processing apparatus.

80. (Original) An information processing apparatus for transmitting image data to the image processing apparatus according to claim 6, said information processing apparatus comprising:



a reception section for receiving specific color information concerning a specific color;  
and

a converting section for converting into said specific color a predetermined color in the image data to be transmitted to said image processing apparatus.

81. (Original) An information processing apparatus for transmitting image data to the image processing apparatus according to claim 7, said information processing apparatus comprising:

a reception section for receiving specific color information concerning a specific color;  
and

a converting section for converting into said specific color a predetermined color in the image data to be transmitted to said image processing apparatus.

82. (Original) An information processing apparatus for transmitting image data to the image processing apparatus according to claim 8, said information processing apparatus comprising:

a reception section for receiving specific color information concerning a specific color;  
and

a converting section for converting into said specific color a predetermined color in the image data to be transmitted to said image processing apparatus.

83. (Original) An information processing apparatus for transmitting image data to the image processing apparatus according to claim 49, said information processing apparatus comprising:

a reception section for receiving specific color information concerning a specific color;  
and

a converting section for converting into said specific color a predetermined color in the image data to be transmitted to said image processing apparatus.

84. (Original) An information processing apparatus for transmitting image data to the image processing apparatus according to claim 50, said information processing apparatus comprising:

a reception section for receiving specific color information concerning a specific color;  
and

a converting section for converting into said specific color a predetermined color in the image data to be transmitted to said image processing apparatus.

85. (Original) An information processing apparatus for transmitting image data to the image processing apparatus according to claim 63, wherein

said information processing apparatus comprises a reception section for receiving specific color information concerning a specific color of the image data to be transmitted, and wherein

said information processing apparatus transmits: the image data; and the specific color information received by said reception section.

86. (Original) An information processing apparatus for transmitting image data to the image processing apparatus according to claim 64, wherein

said information processing apparatus comprises a reception section for receiving specific color information concerning a specific color of the image data to be transmitted, and wherein

said information processing apparatus transmits: the image data; and the specific color information received by said reception section.

87. (Original) An information processing apparatus for transmitting image data to the image processing apparatus according to claim 65, wherein

said information processing apparatus comprises a reception section for receiving specific color information concerning a specific color of the image data to be transmitted, and wherein

said information processing apparatus transmits: the image data; and the specific color information received by said reception section.

88. (Original) An information processing apparatus for transmitting image data to the image processing apparatus according to claim 66, wherein

said information processing apparatus comprises a reception section for receiving specific color information concerning a specific color of the image data to be transmitted, and wherein

said information processing apparatus transmits: the image data; and the specific color information received by said reception section.

89. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to claim 85, further comprising

an adding section for adding the specific color information received by said reception section to the image data to be transmitted, wherein

said information processing apparatus transmits the image data to which the specific color information is added by said adding section.

90. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to claim 86, further comprising

an adding section for adding the specific color information received by said reception section to the image data to be transmitted, wherein

said information processing apparatus transmits the image data to which the specific color information is added by said adding section.

91. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to claim 87, further comprising

an adding section for adding the specific color information received by said reception section to the image data to be transmitted, wherein

said information processing apparatus transmits the image data to which the specific color information is added by said adding section.

92. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to claim 88, further comprising

an adding section for adding the specific color information received by said reception section to the image data to be transmitted, wherein

said information processing apparatus transmits the image data to which the specific color information is added by said adding section.